GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3881
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USAGE OF PLASTICS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conference was held on plasticulture and use of plastic in different sectors of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether certain sectors of industry and agriculture find it unavoidable; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) An International Conference on Plasticulture and Precision Farming was organized by the National Committee on Plasticulture Applications in Horticulture, Ministry of Agriculture during November 17-21, 2005 at New Delhi. The Conference addressed various areas such as micro and sprinkler irrigation, sub surface drainage, lining of water storage and conveyance systems with plastics film, surface covered cultivation, precision farming, organic farming, biotechnology, post harvest management including packaging, storage technology, policy issues etc.

(c) In the agriculture sector, various plasticulture applications like drip and sprinkler irrigation, gieen houses, mulching etc. offer a range of benefits such as water saving, moisture conservation and increase in productivity. Plastic products such as pipes, tubings and films are unavoidable for sustainable agriculture and to increase agricultural productivity. Plastics also find application in packaging,automobile and construction sectors.

(d) Considering the importance of plastics in horticulture development, the Ministry of Agriculture has a National Committee on Plasticulture Applications in Horticulture to promote and develop the use of Plastics in agriculture, water management and related fields. The Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals in the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers also facilitates the growth of the Petrochemical industry including the plastic processing industry.